United Nations A/C.5/73/12

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Fifth Committee
Agenda items 82 and 136

Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.22

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. At its 35th meeting, on 13 November 2018, the Sixth Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.22 without a vote. A statement of programme budget implications (A/C.6/73/L.29) was read out to the Committee.

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 18 of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.22, the General Assembly would take note of paragraph 395 of the report of the International Law Commission and decide that the next session of the Commission would be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 29 April to 7 June and from 8 July to 9 August 2019.

II. Relationship of the proposed request to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

3. The activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 6, Legal affairs, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (see A/71/6/Rev.1) and to section 8, Legal affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (see A/72/6 (Sect. 8) and A/72/6 (Sect. 8)/Corr.1).

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III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. The amount of $3,008,100 included in the programme budget for 2018–2019 under section 8, Legal affairs, for the International Law Commission covers: (a) attendance by the Chair and 33 members at the annual session in Geneva; (b) attendance by the Chair at the regular sessions of the General Assembly during the consideration of the report of the Commission; (c) travel expenses for staff to service the sessions of the Commission; and (d) non-staff compensation, payable at the rate set by the Assembly in its resolution 56/272. The approved budget amount is based on an 11-week session in 2018 and a 10-week session in 2019, with an assumed average attendance at the annual session of 82 per cent of the membership.

5. It is anticipated that the decision to hold the next session of the International Law Commission at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 29 April to 7 June and from 8 July to 9 August 2019, as set out in operative paragraph 18 of the draft resolution, would entail additional resource requirements in the amount of $128,100 for the following:

(a) Travel expenses for members for seven additional days ($114,900);

(b) Travel expenses for staff for seven additional days ($13,200).

IV. Financial implications of the proposal

6. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.22, thus deciding to hold an 11-week session in 2019, additional resources in the amount of $128,100 would be required under section 8, Legal affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

Additional resource requirements

(United States dollars)

	Resource requirements for the biennium 2018–2019
Section 8, Legal affairs	
Travel expenses for members	114 900
Travel expenses for staff	13 200
Total	**128 100**

V. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

7. As the provisions made in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activities requested under operative paragraph 18 of the draft resolution would not be sufficient, and as it is not possible to identify activities within section 8 of the programme budget for the biennium that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium at the current stage, it would therefore be necessary to provide additional non-recurrent resources in the amount of $128,100 through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

VI. Contingency fund

8. It will be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures were proposed that exceeded the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

9. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.22, additional resource requirements in the amount of $128,100 would arise under section 8, Legal affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. The amount of $128,100 would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 to be approved by the Assembly.**

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General Assembly

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Fifth Committee
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Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. At its 50th meeting, on 16 November 2018, the Third Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51, by a recorded vote of 142 to 10, with 26 abstentions. A statement of programme budget implications (A/C.3/73/L.58) was before the Committee.

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 18 of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions relating to Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, and to offer assistance to the Government of Myanmar;

(b) To extend the appointment of the Special Envoy on Myanmar and submit the report of the Special Envoy covering all relevant issues addressed in the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

(c) To provide all assistance necessary to enable the Special Envoy to effectively discharge her mandate and to brief Member States every six months, or as otherwise requested or as warranted by the situation on the ground;

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(d) To identify ways in which the existing mandates can more effectively deliver in their respective areas of responsibility and can complement each other's work through enhanced coordination;

(e) To call the continued attention of the Security Council to the situation in Myanmar with concrete recommendations for action towards resolving the humanitarian crisis, promoting the safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons and ensuring accountability for those responsible for human rights violations.

3. Under the terms of operative paragraph 19 of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51, the General Assembly would request that the Special Envoy participate by way of interactive dialogue in the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly.

III. Relationship of the requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

4. The activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to subprogramme 1, Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts, of programme 2, Political affairs, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (see A/71/6/Rev.1), and section 3, Political affairs of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 3)).

IV. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

5. Pursuant to operative paragraph 18 of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51, the Secretary-General would extend the appointment of the Special Envoy on Myanmar. The Special Envoy would carry out work relating to the good offices of the Secretary-General. Accordingly, the Office of the Special Envoy is assumed to be a special political mission under thematic cluster I: special and personal envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General.

6. The Special Envoy on Myanmar would continue to function on a when-actually-employed basis, supported by a small team based in Nay Pyi Taw and at Headquarters in New York.

7. The Office of the Special Envoy would continue to work with a wide range of actors, including the Government of Myanmar, to provide the good offices of the Secretary-General and encourage progress in the democratic transition and accountability of Myanmar. In particular, the Office would continue to work on promoting social cohesion and resolving the situation of the Rohingya community in Myanmar. In this context, in line with the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, the Special Envoy would undertake efforts so that there is a definite advancement towards the attainment of political, social and economic rights of the Rohingya community. The Special Envoy would continue to support and advocate the scaling-up of development projects in Rakhine, one of the poorest states in Myanmar.

8. To improve the conditions of the members of the Rohingya community living in Bangladesh and Myanmar, the Office of the Special Envoy would work with officials and all actors within and outside Myanmar to allow unfettered access to humanitarian support and to ensure the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of the refugees to their areas of origin. In addition, the Special Envoy would support the efforts of the international community to provide continued political and financial support to the management of the multidimensional crisis by Bangladesh. In this regard, the Special Envoy would work for the effective implementation of the memorandum of understanding

reached by the Government of Myanmar, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme on United Nations system support for creating the conditions for the voluntary, safe and sustainable return of refugees from Bangladesh and their reintegration into Rakhine State.

9. With regard to national reconciliation, the Office of the Special Envoy would continue to support efforts that would advance the peace process and lead to greater inclusivity. The Special Envoy would aim to lead the efforts of the United Nations system so that national stakeholders and mechanisms are able to engage with various parts of the United Nations with the resources and tools available to support national reconciliation efforts.

10. In order to ensure close coordination with key stakeholders in Myanmar, the Office of the Special Envoy will be located in Nay Pyi Taw. In addition, in carrying out its mandate, the Office would work in partnership with a wide range of actors, both within the United Nations system and external partners. The Special Envoy would also work closely with the United Nations country team in Myanmar in a range of activities that may relate to his/her mandate. The Special Envoy would also maintain regular and close contact with interested Members States, including those of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The presence of the Office in Nay Pyi Taw will also facilitate regular interaction with regional organizations and bilateral contacts with Member States.

V. Estimated resource requirements

11. The estimated costs of continuing the provision of the good offices of the Secretary-General and of pursuing his discussions on human rights, democracy and reconciliation in Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, and to offer technical assistance through his Special Envoy on Myanmar, as requested in operative paragraphs 18 (a) and (b) of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51, for a one-year period, from 1 January to 31 December 2019, amount to $1,232,300, net of staff assessment.

12. These resources would cover the salaries of the Special Envoy (Under-Secretary-General), a Head of Office (D-1), two Political Affairs Officers (1 P-5 and 1 P-4) and one Assistant (Local level), as well as other operational requirements. Other substantive support would be provided to the Special Envoy by the Department of Political Affairs, and other administrative support would be provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

13. The above requirements have been included in the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council (A/73/352/Add.1).

VI. Summary

14. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.51, resource requirements amounting to $1,232,300, net of staff assessment, would be required for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2019 for the continuation of the Office of the Special Envoy on Myanmar.**

15. **Approval for these requirements is being sought in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council (A/73/352/Add.1), which is currently before the Assembly.**

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Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.48

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. At its 49th meeting, on 15 November 2018, the Third Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.48, by a recorded vote of 67 to 26, with 82 abstentions. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.3/73/L.66.

II. Request contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 14 of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.48, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation.

III. Relationship of the proposed request to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

3. The requested activity referred to in the draft resolution relates to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference

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management, and programme 20, Human rights, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1).

4. It also relates to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 2) and A/72/6 (Sect. 24) and A/72/6 (Sect. 24)/Corr.1, respectively).

IV. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

5. With regard to the implementation of operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution, the following resources would be required under section 24, Human rights:

(a) General temporary assistance at the P-3 level for six months in 2019, to gather and analyse the information collected under the applicable legal framework and the mandate of the resolution, develop relevant options and recommendations and prepare the report;

(b) Travel of the head of the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine to New York to present the report.

6. Furthermore, it is envisaged that the request for documentation contained in operative paragraph 14 would constitute an addition to the documentation workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document of 8,500 words, to be issued in the six official languages of the United Nations in 2019. The requirements for documentation services are estimated in the amount of $26,000 in 2019, which would be absorbed within the approved appropriation for section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

V. Financial implications of the proposal

7. To implement the request contained in operative paragraph 14, additional one-time requirements in the amount of $79,200 would be required under section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (see table).

Resource requirements

(United States dollars)

	Total resource requirements	*To be absorbed*	*Additional requirements*
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Pre-session documentation	26 000	26 000	–
Subtotal, section 2	**26 000**	**26 000**	**–**
Section 24, Human rights			
Other staff costs	74 500	–	74 500
Travel of staff	4 700	–	4 700
Subtotal, section 24	**79 200**	**–**	**79 200**
Total	**105 200**	**26 000**	**79 200**

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

8. No provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activity requested under operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution. As reflected in paragraph 6 above, an amount of $26,000 would be absorbed within the approved appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 for section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management. With regard to the balance of the requirements, it is not possible at present to identify activities within section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional one-time resources in the amount of $79,200 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

VII. Contingency fund

9. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VIII. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

10. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.48, additional resource requirements in the amount of $79,200 would arise under section 24, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. That amount would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

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Fifth Committee
Agenda items 136 and 72 (b)

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance: comprehensive implementation and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

A global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.52/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. At its 51st meeting, on 16 November 2018, the Third Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.52/Rev.1, by a recorded vote of 128 to 10, with 42 abstentions. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.3/73/L.68.

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 12 and 27 of draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.52/Rev.1 the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to establish a permanent forum on people of African descent which will serve as a consultation mechanism for people of African descent and other interested stakeholders as a platform for improving the quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent and to contribute to elaborating a United Nations

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declaration, which is the first step towards a legally binding instrument, on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent; and that the modalities, format, substantive and procedural aspects of the permanent forum will be concluded by Member States and observer States, with further consultations with people of African descent;

(b) Request the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Human Rights Council to continue to convene annual commemorative meetings of the Assembly and the Council during the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, with the appropriate focus and themes, and to hold a debate on the mitigation and countering of rising nationalist populism and extreme supremacist ideologies, with the participation of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this context encourages the participation of eminent personalities active in the struggle against racial discrimination, Member States and civil society organizations in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly and the Council, respectively.

III. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

3. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, programme 20, Human rights, programme 24, Public information, and programme 25, Management and support services, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1).

4. They also relate to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, section 24, Human rights, section 28, Public information, and section 29F, Administration, Geneva, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 2), A/72/6 (Sect. 24) and A/72/6 (Sect. 24)/Corr.1, A/72/6 (Sect. 28) and A/72/6 (Sect. 29F), respectively).

IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

5. Pursuant to the requests contained in operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, it is envisaged that the following activities would be conducted:

(a) A one-day consultation meeting in 2019 to be held in Geneva, prior to the first meeting of the permanent forum on people of African descent, consisting of two sessions with interpretation in all six languages on the modalities of the permanent forum, and involving 25 members of civil society of people of African descent from five different regions, one representative of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, one Special Rapporteur, one representative of the Group of Independent Eminent Experts, and one representative of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

(b) An annual meeting of the permanent forum on people of African descent for three working days with interpretation in all six languages, alternating annually between Geneva and New York, starting with the first meeting in Geneva in 2019.

6. The above activities would constitute an addition to the meetings workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management starting in 2019.

7. Furthermore, the requirements for documentation resulting from operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, as follows:

(a) For the one-day consultation meeting, two pre-session documents, one in-session document, and one post-session document in 2019;

(b) For the annual meeting of the permanent forum, two pre-session documents and one post-session document, starting in 2019.

8. With regard to operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, it would be necessary to redesign and maintain the website currently dedicated to the International Decade for People of African Descent, which will serve as a platform to support the permanent forum on people of African descent.

9. The implementation of operative paragraph 27 of the draft resolution would include a debate in 2019, with the participation of three eminent personalities, on the mitigation of rising nationalist populism and extreme supremacist ideologies, to be held in New York during the session of the General Assembly.

V. Estimated resource requirements

A. Conference-servicing requirements

Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

10. Pursuant to operative paragraph 12, the following resources would be required:

(a) One-time resources in 2019 in the amount of $40,900 to provide for conference services for the one-day consultation meeting on the modalities of the permanent forum on people of African descent;

(b) Recurrent resources in the amount of $85,600 in odd-numbered years, starting in 2019, and $79,700 in even-numbered years, starting in 2020, to provide for conference services for the annual meetings of the permanent forum on people of African descent for three working days each year, alternating between Geneva and New York starting with the first meeting in Geneva in 2019. Existing provisions in the amount of $52,600 are included in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 in relation to General Assembly resolution 69/16.

11. The additional requirements for the year 2019 in the amount of $73,900 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would be absorbed within the approved appropriation under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

Section 29F, Administration, Geneva

12. With regard to implementation of operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, resource requirements in the amount of $2,100 would arise every odd-numbered year, starting in 2019, related to sound technician and recording services for the permanent forum on people of African descent held in Geneva. In addition, one-time additional requirements of $700 would be needed in 2019 related to sound technician and recording services during the consultation meeting.

B. Non-conference-servicing requirements

Section 24, Human rights

Posts

13. To implement the requests contained in operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, it is estimated that additional post resources will be required for the establishment of one new established post, Human Rights Officer (P-4), effective 1 January 2019, the incumbent to serve as the secretary of the permanent forum on people of African descent ($102,000). As secretary to the forum, the incumbent would:

(a) Ensure the overall guidance, organization and coordination of the activities of the permanent forum with the view to providing a platform for improving the quality of life and livelihoods for people of African descent;

(b) Substantively contribute to the elaboration of a legally binding instrument on the promotion and full respect of human rights of people of African descent, including by providing expert advice and recommendations aimed at addressing all scourges of racism confronted by people of African descent in the diaspora;

(c) Identify and analyse best practices, challenges, opportunities and initiatives for the further implementation of the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action relevant to people of African descent;

(d) Prepare and disseminate information on issues related to people of African descent;

(e) Contribute to raising awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities relating to people of African descent within the United Nations system.

General temporary assistance

14. To implement the requests contained in operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, general temporary assistance at the General Service (Other level) for six months would be required annually to assist with the organization of the annual permanent forum on people of African descent and with the initial one-day consultation ($62,100).

Travel of representatives and travel of participants

15. Pursuant to operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, the following additional resources would also be required:

(a) One-time resources in the amount of $116,200 would be needed, comprising travel of participants ($93,900) and travel of representatives ($22,300), for the one-day consultation meeting in 2019 on the modalities of the permanent forum on people of African descent, including 25 members of civil society of people of African descent from five different regions, one Special Rapporteur, one representative of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, one representative of the Group of Independent Eminent Experts and one representative of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;

(b) Annual requirements would arise in the amount of $161,900, comprising travel of participants ($135,300) and travel of representatives ($26,600), to the annual permanent forum on people of African descent, including 25 members of civil society of people of African descent from different regions, one independent eminent expert and one representative of the Working Group of Experts on People of African

Descent, in addition to the participation of five experts, one Special Rapporteur and one member of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination that was previously approved under General Assembly resolution 69/16. A provision of $35,900 already exists in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 in relation to resolution 69/16; thus, the additional resource requirements for the biennium 2018–2019 would be $126,000.

16. To implement the request contained in operative paragraph 27 of the draft resolution, additional one-time requirements would arise for travel of three eminent personalities to participate in the debate in relation to the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in New York during the General Assembly ($17,400).

Travel of staff

17. To implement the request contained in operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, travel of two staff members ($11,300) from Geneva to New York would be needed every even-numbered year, starting in 2020, for the meeting of the permanent forum on people of African descent in New York, for six days, including three days for meeting preparation and three days for the forum.

Section 28, Public information

18. Pursuant to operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution, it would be necessary to implement redesign and revamping of the website, including necessary coding, updating the site map, menus and layouts, and curating and uploading content such as text, links and multimedia, for an estimated one-time provision of $21,000. In addition, a recurrent provision of $6,700 would be required annually for the maintenance of the website in six languages, for which a provision already exists in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 in relation to General Assembly resolution 69/16.

19. Therefore, to implement the requests contained in operative paragraphs 12 and 27 of the draft resolution, additional requirements in the amount of $447,500 would arise, including $423,700 ($290,100 recurrent and $133,600 non-recurrent) under section 24, Human rights, $21,000 (non-recurrent) under section 28, Public information, and $2,800 ($2,100 recurrent and $700 non-recurrent) under section 29F, Administration, Geneva, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. The details of these additional requirements are provided in the table.

Resource requirements

(United States dollars)

	2019				*Requirements for 2020 and every even-numbered year thereafter*	*Requirements for 2021 and every odd-numbered year thereafter*
	Total requirements for 2019	*Included in the 2018–2019 budget*	*To be absorbed*	*Additional requirements for 2018–2019 budget*		
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management						
Simultaneous interpretation	65 300	–	65 300	–	50 400	52 800
Pre-session documentation	17 400	–	17 400	–	3 300	3 700
In-session documentation	400	–	400	–	–	–
Post-session documentation	43 400	52 600	(9 200)	–	26 000	29 100
Subtotal, section 2	**126 500**	**52 600**	**73 900**	**–**	**79 700**	**85 600**

	2019				Requirements for 2020 and every even-numbered year thereafter	Requirements for 2021 and every odd-numbered year thereafter
	Total requirements for 2019	Included in the 2018–2019 budget	To be absorbed	Additional requirements for 2018–2019 budget		
Section 24, Human rights						
Posts	102 000	–	–	102 000	180 400[a]	180 400
General temporary assistance	62 100	–	–	62 100	62 100	62 100
Travel of representatives, annual permanent forum on people of African descent	26 600	13 300	–	13 300	26 600	26 600
Travel of representatives, consultation meeting	22 300	–	–	22 300	–	–
Travel of representatives, debate	17 400	–	–	17 400	–	–
Travel of staff (every second year, starting 2020)	–	–	–	–	11 300	–
Grants and contributions/travel of meeting participants, annual permanent forum on people of African descent	135 300	22 600	–	112 700	135 300	135 300
Grants and contributions/travel of meeting participants, consultation meeting	93 900	–	–	93 900	–	–
Subtotal, section 24	**459 600**	**35 900**	**–**	**423 700**	**415 700**	**404 400**
Section 28, Public information						
Website redesign (one-time)	21 000	–	–	21 000	–	–
Website maintenance (recurrent)	6 700	6 700	–	–	6 700	6 700
Subtotal, section 28	**27 700**	**6 700**	**–**	**21 000**	**6 700**	**6 700**
Section 29F, Administration, Geneva						
Sound technical and recording services, annual permanent forum on people of African descent	2 100	–	–	2 100	–	2 100
Sound technical and recording services, consultation meeting	700	–	–	700	–	–
Subtotal, section 29F	**2 800**	**–**	**–**	**2 800**	**–**	**2 100**
Total	**616 600**	**95 200**	**73 900**	**447 500**	**502 100**	**498 800**

[a] Taking into account the technical adjustment for the full annual provision for the new P-4 post established in 2019.

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

20. The programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 includes existing provisions in the amount of $95,200, including $52,600 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, $35,900 under section 24, Human rights, and $6,700 under section 28, Public information. Further, as indicated in paragraph 11 above, the amount of $73,900 would be absorbed within the approved appropriation for section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

21. With respect to the balance of the additional requirements for the biennium 2018–2019, it is not possible at present to identify activities within the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that additional resources in the amount of $447,500 ($292,200 recurrent

and $155,300 non-recurrent) be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

22. The resource requirements related to the next budget periods, as detailed in the table, would be included in the proposed programme budgets for the respective years.

VII. Contingency fund

23. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VIII. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

24. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/73/L.52/Rev.1, additional resource requirements in the amount of $447,500 ($292,200 recurrent and $155,300 non-recurrent) would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, including $423,700 ($290,100 recurrent and $133,600 non-recurrent) under section 24, Human rights, $21,000 (non-recurrent) under section 28, Public information, and $2,800 ($2,100 recurrent and $700 non-recurrent) under section 29F, Administration, Geneva. The amount of $447,500 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 to be approved by the General Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

25. **The General Assembly would also be requested to approve the establishment of one P-4 post under section 24, Human rights, effective 1 January 2019.**

26. **In addition, appropriation of an additional amount of $11,000 would be required under section 36, Staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.**

United Nations A/C.5/73/16

General Assembly

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Agenda items 136 and 128 (d)

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/73/L.23

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 5 of draft resolution A/73/L.23, the General Assembly would:

(a) Welcome the fact that Egypt has agreed to the opening of the United Nations liaison office to the League of Arab States in Cairo with the aim of improving the effectiveness of cooperation between the two organizations, and request that the Secretariat of the United Nations coordinate with Egypt to expedite the opening of the office and, in cooperation with the Secretariat of the League of Arab States, to finish preparing and adopt the terms of reference defining the functions and mandate of the United Nations office; and, in that context, request the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Secretariat of the League of Arab States to continue convening meetings of the high-level working group to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the protocol of amendment of the text of the cooperation agreement between the two organizations, until the liaison office is opened in Cairo;

(b) Request the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Secretariat of the League of Arab States to continue their periodic consultations, at all levels, in order to exchange information, and review and strengthen coordination and follow-up mechanisms, particularly in the political and security fields;

(c) Emphasize the importance of holding the fourteenth sectoral meeting between the two organizations and their specialized agencies, to be held at the

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Headquarters of the League of Arab States in 2019, for which the dates and theme will be agreed by the two secretariats in due course, and the fifteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations, to be held at the United Nations centre in Vienna in 2020, for which the dates will be agreed by the two secretariats in due course.

II. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

2. The requested activities referred to in draft resolution A/73/L.23 relate to programme 2, Political affairs, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1) and section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/72/6 (Sect. 3)).

III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution, the opening of the United Nations liaison office to the League of Arab States in Cairo is envisaged to be in line with the provision of section D of the protocol of amendment of the text of the agreement of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States signed on 24 September 2016 and aimed at strengthening the existing cooperation between the two organizations.

4. The office would enhance the partnership and improve interaction between the United Nations and the League of Arab States in the area of international peace and security, including in the areas of conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding, as well as allow for the development of a better understanding of the partnership opportunities and capacity-building needs of the League of Arab States and related plans for United Nations support.

5. The liaison office would facilitate dialogue effectively and serve as an institutionalized dialogue mechanism between the United Nations and the League of Arab States in pursuit of the common goals and objectives of the two organizations. It would assist in organizing and conducting joint workshops, meetings, seminars and training activities. It would work with League of Arab States counterparts to identify potential areas of support from the United Nations for capacity development and exchange of expertise and best practices.

6. Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, it is envisaged that the fifteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations would be held at the United Nations centre in Vienna in 2020, on a date to be agreed upon, in consultation with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, in due course. It is envisaged that the meeting would comprise three days with interpretation in two languages (Arabic and English).

IV. Modifications required in the programme of work and the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

7. To meet the provisions of the draft resolution, the outputs under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 would need to be amended in respect of activities during the implementation of the budget. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a new subprogramme, United Nations liaison office to non-United Nations intergovernmental entities (League of Arab

States), would be established within section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 as follows:

"Subprogramme 7: United Nations liaison office to non-United Nations intergovernmental entities (League of Arab States)

Objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures

Objective of the Organization: More effective collaboration between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

Expected accomplishments	*Indicators of achievement*	*Performance measures*	*2019*
(a) Improved consultations and information-sharing between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	(i) Effective functioning of the Cairo office	Target	Cairo office is opened and functional by the first quarter of 2019
	(ii) Regular consultative activities carried out between the United Nations and the League of Arab States secretariats	Target	Number of joint workshops, seminars and training activities held between the United Nations and the League of Arab States
(b) Enhanced support for the development of League of Arab States capacities	Capacity-building needs of the League of Arab States and related plans for United Nations support are realized	Target	Mapping of cooperation activities is prepared in 2019
		Target	Number of capacity-building initiatives identified in 2019

External factors

The office is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that there will be continued political will and commitment on the part of States Members of the United Nations and the League of Arab States in strengthening the cooperation between the two institutions.

Outputs

In 2019, the following outputs will be delivered:

Categories of outputs and final outputs

Outputs	*Quantity*
International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison	
1. Contributions to the implementation of multilateral decisions adopted by the League of Arab States and the United Nations	3
Other substantive activities	
2. Regular and ad hoc meetings and consultations with the League of Arab States, including biennial United Nations-League of Arab States general cooperation meetings and sectoral meetings	10
3. Organization of an annual capacity-building activity for the League of Arab States Secretariat	1"

V. Financial implications of the proposals

8. Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, it is estimated that additional requirements in the amount of $287,400 would arise for 2019 in the biennium 2018–2019 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 36, Staff assessment.

9. Two posts (1 P-5 and 1 Local level) would be based in Cairo. Substantive and administrative support would be provided to the office by the Department of Political

and Peacebuilding Affairs. Additional location-dependent logistical support would be provided by the United Nations Development Programme in Cairo on a cost-reimbursable basis.

10. The Senior Political Affairs Officer (P-5) would be responsible for developing a stakeholder network to enhance cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States while monitoring and reporting on discussions, particularly with implications for peace and security, taking place in the League of Arab States and other forums. The Senior Political Affairs Officer would continue to fortify the United Nations-League of Arab States partnership by facilitating institutional dialogue mechanisms with the League of Arab States and would support other exchanges, workshops and training on issues related to peace and security. The Senior Political Affairs Officer would represent the United Nations in meetings, manage the liaison office and proactively seek new opportunities, with a view to strengthening cooperation between the two organizations. Under the supervision of the Senior Political Affairs Officer, an Administrative Assistant (Local level) would provide administrative support to the office, including a wide range of office support, logistics and administrative functions.

11. Operational requirements include official travel, facilities and infrastructure, ground transportation, communications, information technology and other supplies, services and equipment.

12. The details of these additional resource requirements for 2019 are set out in the table below.

Additional resource requirements, by section of the programme budget

(United States dollars)

Section	*Resource requirements*
Section 3, Political affairs	
Posts (1 P-5 and 1 Local level)	151 300
Official travel	29 700
General operating expenses	62 600
Supplies and materials	700
Furniture and equipment	22 800
Subtotal, section 3	**267 100**
Section 36, Staff assessment	
Staff assessment	20 300
Total	**287 400**

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

13. No provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution. At this stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the amount of $287,400 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

VII. Contingency fund

14. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

15. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/73/L.23, additional resource requirements in the amount of $267,100 for 2019 would arise under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, as would an additional amount of $20,300 under section 36, Staff assessment to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.**

16. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/73/L.23, the amount of $287,400 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund, and the establishment of two posts (1 P-5 and 1 Local level) effective 1 January 2019, under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 would be required.**

United Nations A/C.5/73/17

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Agenda items 20 (g) and 136

Sustainable development: report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.49

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

I. Introduction

1. At its 27th meeting, on 3 December 2018, the Second Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.49 without a vote. A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution was before the Committee (A/C.2/73/L.68).

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 9 of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.49 the General Assembly would express concern about the sustainability, predictability and stability of the funding of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) governing body and request the Secretary-General to make proposals, as appropriate.

III. Relationship of the proposed requests to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019 and to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

3. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference

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management, and programme 11, Environment, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018–2019.

4. They also relate to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and section 14, Environment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

5. Support to the UNEP governing body involves the provision of conference-servicing, administrative, logistical and substantive support, as further detailed in paragraphs 6 to 18 below. Pursuant to operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, regular budget resources would be needed to fund those support requirements in line with the respective activities and meeting schedule of the governing body, as described below:

(a) The United Nations Environment Assembly, which succeeded the Governing Council, has held three sessions (the first in 2014, the second in 2016 and the third in 2017) and will hold its fourth session from 11 to 15 March 2019. Thereafter, the Assembly will meet in the last week of February in odd-numbered years;

(b) The fourth open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP will be held from 4 to 8 March 2019. An open-ended meeting will be held every two years thereafter, prior to each session of the Assembly;

(c) The Committee of Permanent Representatives will hold regular quarterly meetings;

(d) The Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP will meet annually to review the medium-term strategy and programme of work and budget to be endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and for the governing body's approval, and to oversee their implementation and accountability by UNEP.

V. Estimated resource requirements

A. Conference-servicing requirements

Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

6. The United Nations Environment Assembly will hold its fourth session from 11 to 15 March 2019 in Nairobi and will meet thereafter in the last week of February in odd-numbered years. The five-day session will consist of 18 meetings with interpretation in all six official languages at a cost of $273,000. In addition, the documentation translation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management will comprise 24 pre-session documents (a total of 145,530 words), 21 in-session documents (31,320 words) and 22 post-session documents (29,820 words) in the six official languages, as well as report-writing services, at a cost of $798,200 for the biennium 2018–2019. Thereafter, since the Assembly would meet in the last week of February in odd-numbered years, the documentation translation workload for half of the pre-session documents would be in even-numbered years, with the related costs split between even- and odd-numbered years, as indicated in the table below.

7. The Committee of Permanent Representatives will hold its fourth open-ended meeting from 4 to 8 March 2019 in Nairobi and will hold an open-ended meeting every two years thereafter, prior to each session of the Assembly. The five-day session will constitute an addition of 10 meetings with interpretation in all six official languages to the meetings workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, at a cost of $136,500. In addition, report-writing services would entail additional requirements amounting to $11,200.

8. The sixth annual meeting of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives will be held in Nairobi in 2019 on dates to be determined. Each year, the five-day session will constitute an addition of 10 meetings with interpretation in all six languages to the meetings workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management. For 2019, this would cost $136,500. In addition, the requirements for documentation will constitute a yearly addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one post-session document (5,000 words) in the six official languages, as well as report-writing services. For 2019, this would cost $25,900.

9. The Committee of Permanent Representatives will meet four times per year for one day each in Nairobi, constituting two meetings per session, totalling a maximum of eight meetings per year at a cost of $143,200 for the biennium 2018–2019. In addition, the requirements for documentation will constitute four post-session documents (39,600 words) for formal editing only, as well as report-writing services, at a cost of $71,200 for the biennium.

10. The conference-servicing costs of the above-mentioned governance structure are partly funded by existing regular budget provisions in the amount of $1,050,100 in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, as indicated in the table below. The additional requirements for conference servicing in the amount of $545,600 would be absorbed within the approved appropriation under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

11. Total requirements for future governance cycles, specifically for each even and odd year starting in 2020, are indicated in the table below and would be included in the proposed programme budget for the respective year.

B. Non-conference-servicing requirements

Section 14, Environment

Other staff costs

12. The United Nations Environment Assembly is attended by Heads of State and Government, ministers, heads of United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations, chief executive officers of multinational global companies and non-governmental organizations. Enhanced security is needed for such high-level dignitary representation. Security personnel will be required to work overtime to provide the appropriate level of security for the Assembly (estimated overtime costs of $73,700), the open-ended meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (estimated overtime costs of $40,200) and the annual meetings of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (estimated overtime costs of $1,100). Those requirements are recurrent and would arise in the year when the relevant governing body meets, namely, every odd-numbered year for the Assembly and the open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and every year for the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

13. With the high number of delegates from different parts of the world, standby medical personnel and ambulatory services during the sessions of the Assembly and

the open-ended meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives would be provided, resulting in overtime requirements of $7,300 related to the Assembly and $7,300 related to the open-ended meeting of the Committee every odd-numbered year.

14. Overtime will continue to be required for UNEP staff providing substantive support (submitting reports and organizing agendas) to the governing bodies. The respective provision in the amount of $67,800 has been included in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 and will be included in the proposed programme budget for every odd-numbered year.

Hospitality

15. Resources amounting to $19,200 would provide for the cost of official functions held by the President of the Assembly and the Executive Director of UNEP during sessions of the governing bodies. The respective provision has been included in the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 and will be included in the proposed programme budget for every odd-numbered year.

General operating expenses

16. The meetings of the Assembly, the open-ended meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the annual meetings of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives require additional support related to information technology and communication services, including Wi-Fi, sound distribution and standby engineers. Other requirements include rental of equipment required for printing and recording, as well as registration tents and exhibition booths. The cost associated with those services is estimated at $141,100 for the Assembly, $45,000 for the open-ended meetings of the Committee and $7,700 for the Subcommittee. The requirements are recurrent and would arise in the year when the governing body meets.

17. As provided in the table below, in order to implement the requests contained in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, additional requirements in the amount of $323,400 under section 14, Environment, would arise for the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.

18. The resource requirements related to the next budget periods, as detailed in the table below, would be included in the proposed programme budget for the respective year.

(United States dollars)

	2018–2019				*Requirements for 2020 (and all even-numbered years thereafter)*	*Requirements for 2021 (and all odd-numbered years thereafter)*
	Total requirements for 2018–2019	*Included in the 2018–2019 budget*	*To be absorbed*	*Additional requirements for 2018–2019*		
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management						
United Nations Environment Assembly						
Meetings servicing	273 000	163 100	109 900	–	–	273 000
Pre-session documentation	428 000	328 800	99 200	–	214 000	214 000
In-session documentation	165 900	175 700	(9 800)	–	–	165 900
Post-session documentation	161 500	136 100	25 400	–	–	161 500
Report writing	42 800	32 000	10 800	–	–	42 800

	2018–2019				Requirements for 2020 (and all even-numbered years thereafter)	Requirements for 2021 (and all odd-numbered years thereafter)
	Total requirements for 2018–2019	Included in the 2018–2019 budget	To be absorbed	Additional requirements for 2018–2019		
Open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives						
Meetings servicing	136 500	–	136 500	–	–	136 500
Report writing	11 200	–	11 200	–	–	11 200
Annual meeting of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives						
Meetings servicing	136 500	–	136 500	–	136 500	136 500
Post-session documentation	14 700	–	14 700	–	14 700	14 700
Report writing	11 200	–	11 200	–	11 200	11 200
Quarterly meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives						
Meetings servicing	143 200	143 200	–	–	71 600	71 600
Post-session documentation	46 600	46 600	–	–	23 300	23 300
Report writing	24 600	24 600	–	–	12 300	12 300
Subtotal, section 2	**1 595 700**	**1 050 100**	**545 600**	**–**	**483 600**	**1 274 500**
Section 14, Environment						
United Nations Environment Assembly						
Overtime, security	73 700	–	–	73 700	–	73 700
Overtime, medical	7 300	–	–	7 300	–	7 300
Overtime, substantive servicing	67 800	67 800	–	–	–	67 800
Information and communications technology	79 100	–	–	79 100	–	79 100
Equipment rental	62 000	–	–	62 000	–	62 000
Hospitality	19 200	19 200	–	–	–	19 200
Open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives						
Overtime, security	40 200	–	–	40 200	–	40 200
Overtime, medical	7 300	–	–	7 300	–	7 300
Information and communications technology	21 900	–	–	21 900	–	21 900
Equipment rental	23 100	–	–	23 100	–	23 100
Annual meeting of the Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives						
Overtime, security	1 100	–	–	1 100	1 100	1 100
Information and communications technology	7 300	–	–	7 300	7 300	7 300
Equipment rental	400	–	–	400	400	400
Subtotal, section 14	**410 400**	**87 000**	**–**	**323 400**	**8 800**	**410 400**
Total	**2 006 100**	**1 137 100**	**545 600**	**323 400**	**492 400**	**1 684 900**

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2018–2019

19. The total resource requirements for the biennium 2018–2019 are estimated in the amount of $2,006,100, including $1,595,700 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and $410,400 under section 14, Environment. The programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 includes existing provisions of $1,137,100, comprising $1,050,100 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and $87,000 under section 14, Environment. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 10 above, an amount of $545,600, under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would be absorbed within the approved 2018–2019 appropriation for the section. With respect to the balance of the requirements, it is not possible at present to identify activities within section 14, Environment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the amount of $323,400 under section 14, Environment, be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019.

VII. Contingency fund

20. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VIII. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

21. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.49, additional resource requirements in the amount of $323,400 under section 14, Environment, would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. The amount of $323,400 would require an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 to be approved by the General Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**

United Nations A/C.5/73/18

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 136
Programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019

Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates follows the guidelines for the contingency fund contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 42/211.

2. In its resolution 71/274, the General Assembly approved the level of the contingency fund for 2018–2019 in the amount of $40.5 million. In its resolution 72/262, the General Assembly approved charges totalling $39.4 million, leaving a balance of $1.1 million in the contingency fund.

3. Potential new charges, which amount to $78.9 million, are detailed in the annex to the present report and exceed by $77.8 million the remaining balance of $1.1 million in the contingency fund. The potential charges indicated in respect of each budget section correspond to those recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions upon its consideration of individual statements and proposals for revised estimates.

4. The Secretary-General has proposed the absorption of additional expenses due to new and expanded mandates. In the current biennium, an amount of $866,500 was identified for absorption in the context of statements of programme budget implications relating to (a) the report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme; (b) the global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action; (c) advancing responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security; and (d) the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine. During the course of the review of the financial implications of the adoption of various draft resolutions by the Main Committees of the General Assembly, a further amount of $461,300 was identified for absorption within the approved resources for the biennium 2018–2019. However, the magnitude of the additional requirements resulting from new and expanded mandates does not allow for full absorption.

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5. It will be recalled that during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994–1995, the Committee for Programme and Coordination questioned the usefulness of designating high or low priorities at the level of output or activity and recommended that the practice be discontinued (see A/48/16, Part Two, para. 40). The General Assembly subsequently endorsed the recommendation of the Committee in its resolution 48/228, thus removing the identification of high- and low-priority programme elements from the format of the programme budget. As the present format of the budget no longer contains priority-setting information approved by Member States, alternative options for the reallocation or reduction of resources between high- and low-priority mandated programme elements, including the deferral, termination and curtailment of mandated activities, would require General Assembly approval.

6. Total potential charges of $78.9 million, as reflected in the table below, are based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions available at the time of the finalization of the present report.

Breakdown of potential charges to the contingency fund, by budget section

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Budget section	*Amount*[a]
1. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	15 530.5
2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	1 964.8
3. Political affairs	267.1
4. Disarmament	619.8
5. Peacekeeping operations	2 315.4
8. Legal affairs	11 513.6
14. Environment	348.3
18. Economic and social development in Africa	964.5
19. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	1 065.5
21. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	231.7
24. Human rights	16 583.8
28. Public information	61.1
29A (2019). Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance	2 138.8
29B (2019). Department of Operational Support	6 682.0
29F. Administration, Geneva	183.5
29H. Administration, Nairobi	765.5
33. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	17 631.0
34. Safety and security	29.0
Total	**78 895.9**

[a] Net of staff assessment and at initial appropriation rates for 2018–2019.

7. **On the basis of the above and subject to further review by the General Assembly of the proposals of the Secretary-General and related recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Assembly is requested to consider the potential charges related to new and expanded mandates against the contingency fund as outlined above.**

Annex

Contingency fund-related proposals and charges

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Remaining balance in the contingency fund pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/262	1 100.0
Available balance	**1 100.0**

Potential charges	*Secretary-General's proposal*	*Identified for absorption*	*Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions*	*Recommendations of the Fifth Committee*[a]	*Potential charges to the contingency fund*[b]
Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: ensuring a better future for all (A/72/124-E/2018/3)	13 571.8	–	–	–	13 571.8
Progress on the implementation of a flexible workplace at United Nations Headquarters (A/73/370 and A/73/370/Corr.1)	6 586.6	–	–	–	6 586.6
Renovation of Africa Hall and construction of new office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa (A/73/355)	8 931.1	–	–	–	8 931.1
Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok (A/73/327)	4 484.5	–	–	–	4 484.5
Progress on the replacement of office blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/73/344)	6 594.9	–	–	–	6 594.9
Proposal for the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago (A/73/351)	676.7	–	–	–	676.7
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions and twenty-eighth special session (A/73/477)[c]	29 103.5	–	–	–	29 103.5
Tenth progress report on the enterprise resource planning project (A/73/389)	2 138.8	–	–	–	2 138.8
Revised estimates relating to the Office of the Victims' Rights Advocate (A/73/412)	836.1	–	–	–	836.1
Revised estimates relating to the administration of justice (A/73/217, table 13)	1 495.4	–	(277.4)	–	1 218.0
Revised estimates relating to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (A/73/402)	2 315.4	–	–	–	2 315.4
Programme budget implications of the effects of atomic radiation (A/C.5/73/8)[c]	24.9	–	–	–	24.9
Programme budget implications of convening a conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and other	961.6	–	–	–	961.6

Potential charges	*Secretary-General's proposal*	*Identified for absorption*	*Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions*	*Recommendations of the Fifth Committee*[a]	*Potential charges to the contingency fund*[b]
weapons of mass destruction (A/C.5/73/10 and A/C.5/73/10/Corr.1)[c]					
Programme budget implications of advancing responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security (A/C.5/73/9)[c]	206.7	221.0	–	–	206.7
Programme budget implications of a global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (A/C.5/73/15)[c]	447.5	73.9	–	–	447.5
Programme budget implications of the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine (A/C.5/73/14)[c]	79.2	26.0	–	–	79.2
Programme budget implications of the report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (A/C.5/73/17)[c]	323.4	545.6	–	–	323.4
Programme budget implications of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States (A/C.5/73/16)[c]	267.1	–	–	–	267.1
Programme budget implications of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventieth session (A/C.5/73/12)[c]	128.1	–	–	–	128.1
Total	**79 173.3**	**966.5**	**(277.4)**	**–**	**78 895.9**
Shortfall					**(77 795.9)**

[a] To be determined.

[b] Net of staff assessment and at initial appropriation rates for 2018–2019.

[c] Recommendations of the Advisory Committee pending at the time of finalization of the present report.